

Park Board Minutes
April 21, 2015

Members Present: Larry Wilson, Julie Wolfe, Candy Sullinger, Wes Stoner, Gabe Miller, and Bob Simmons

Members Absent: Mica Farley & Jamie Whiteis

Staff Present: Cindy Shook, Jason Reinsch and Marsha Fulton

The meeting was called to order. Bob Simmons made a motion to approve the Park Board minutes from February 17, 2015. Wes Stoner seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Business:

1. The first item on the agenda was the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2015. Cindy reviewed the report and pointed out that total expenditures were down and some of that can be attributed to payroll, as we have had some changes in the maintenance staff. Wes asked about the expenditures at the pool, specifically why they were down so much compared to last year. Cindy explained that expenses are down due to the purchase of the climbing wall in the spring of 2014. Jason then pointed out that the revenue at the campground was down in February, but that the campground manager had given us a more updated report through March that reflected the best March revenue totals ever. Gabe asked why expenditures were up in youth baseball. Jason explained that the addition of the new youth double header league had caused the purchase of some additional equipment.
2. The next item on the agenda was the Youth Baseball Network National Championship. Cindy explained that she was approached about this national event being held at the RecPlex due to delays in construction at the Ball Parks of America. She added that this is an exciting opportunity not only for the department but also for Branson. Jason then explained that Gil Viera, CEO of the Youth Baseball Network, is bringing the tournament to Branson that will include not only five national champion teams, but also a Branson team that he will be coaching. Jason stated that Gil had committed to have a Branson team in their long term plans, not just for this one tournament. Candy stated that this will be a great partnership moving forward. Cindy agreed and added that Gil understands that the RecPlex is not new to hosting national events and has leaned on us for input. Jason concluded this item by stating that not only was it a great opportunity for the area it is great for the local kids, as they will be competing with teams from the East to West Coasts.
3. The next item on the agenda was an update on the spring soccer program. Cindy opened this item by reminding the board how successful fall soccer had been, and that the spring soccer league had been reformatted to include individual as well as team entries. Cindy explained that this decision had been well received and that in 2014 fifteen teams competed in spring soccer, and that this spring we were up to 45 teams. Jason went on to explain that while they had a lot of weather issues early in the season we were able to catch up by playing double headers and utilizing the gym for practices and games.
4. The next agenda item on the agenda was grant funding for no smoking signage that will be placed in the parks. Cindy reminded the board that the new ordinance will take effect in July to establish designated smoking areas, which will be located in the parking lots. Cindy reported that she had been meeting with Teri Harr of Clean Air Coalition to solidify the design for the signs and to help secure funding through the Skaggs Foundation for the cost of the signs, which is estimated at \$1,100.00. Cindy then displayed a sample of a sign that was being considered and asked for feedback from the Board. Candy asked if bids were required for the signs. Cindy responded that she had received pricing from five different sign companies and that Perfect Signs in Hollister was

the low bidder. Cindy explained that the idea behind the sign design was to send a positive message by using the phrase “Welcome to our smoke free park”. Everyone agreed that the sign design was very attractive. Wes suggested that the wording be tweaked to better clarify that smoking is prohibited, except in the parking lot area. Cindy agreed that was better and will make the adjustment.

5. The next item on the agenda was the video surveillance system replacement. Cindy explained that the current system was installed when the RecPlex was constructed ten years ago and had gone out and needed to be replaced. Cindy reported the current analog system will be updated to a new digital system that will allow remote access. She added that there were nine bidders ranging from \$42,499.00 to \$103,000.00. The winning bid was from ACS, the company who had installed the original system. Jason added that the new system would expand coverage as to reduce liability and risk.

6. The next item on the agenda was a Parks and Recreation Update. With no comments the board moved on to member’s reports.

Member’s Reports

1. Candy wanted to thank Gabe Miller for the fantastic job he had done with the recent presentation to the Board of Aldermen.

2. Bob Simmons asked about the number of vacant spots on the park board. Cindy stated that there are currently two vacancies, and that she had submitted Garret Vanderpool and Bryan Bronn for consideration. Bob thanked Cindy for the information, and explained that the Mayor would make the appointments.

Gabe Miller made a motion to adjourn. Julie Wolfe seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned 6:10pm